

ists have found that on the island of Luzon a large percentage of the introduced plants is from the Acapulco region; it is therefore not surprising that insects whose larvæ thrive in decaying fruit and the like, such as *Volucella obesa*, *Notogramma stigma* and this *Euxesta*, also have been introduced.

In all the specimens before me the wings show, within the transverse dark fasciæ, black blotches upon a pale gray ground, as shown in the figure. Finally, it may be added that in the national collection there is a series of a closely related but distinct species, still undescribed, from Aguascalientes, Mexico.

Seioptera vibrans Linné.—This species is generally distributed through Europe and in North America occurs over the northern part of the continent, ranging at least as far south as Washington, D. C. This fly occurs abundantly in certain localities; it has a characteristic habit of resting on the under surface of the leaves of trees and vibrating its wings. In spite of its wide distribution and frequent local abundance there are few observations on the life-history. Scholtz reared the flies in large numbers from a mixture of horse-manure and earth (*Zeitschr. Ent.*, Breslau, 1849 and 1855). Sitenis, nearly forty years later, reported it as occurring regularly under the windows of manure-beds or cold-frames, thus confirming the record of Scholtz (quoted by Mik, *Wien. Ent. Zeit.*, Vol. 6, 1887, p. 216). Karsch, upon information from a correspondent, reports the larvæ in destructive numbers burrowing in the stems of *Dianthus carthusianorum* (Berlin, *Ent. Zeitschr.*, 1887, Sitzgsber., p. xxviii). No doubt this last record has its origin in a faulty observation; most probably the puparium sent to Karsch came from the manured earth and the damage to the plants was due to some other cause.

NOTE ON THE HABITS OF PSITHYRUS VARIABILIS CRESS.

BY THEODORE H. FRISON, Champaign, Ill.

In the Canadian Entomologist for March, 1915, Mr. F. W. L. Sladen records finding *Psithyrus insularis* Sm. in the nest of *Bombus flavifrons* Cress. opened July 7, 1914, at Agassiz, British

Columbia. Mr. Sladen points out that this is the first reported occurrence of a *Psithyrus* inhabiting a nest of a *Bombus* in the New World.

In addition it might be well to record the finding, by myself, of both sexes of the *Psithyrus variabilis* Cress., inhabiting the nest of *Bombus pennsylvanicus* De Geer at Champaign, Illinois. During September, 1910, I had occasion to open several surface nests of *Bombus pennsylvanicus*. Of a total of seven nests, four contained *Psithyrus variabilis*. Again, on September 14, 1915, one female of *Psithyrus variabilis* was found in a surface nest of *Bombus pennsylvanicus*. In one of the nests examined September, 1910, were found thirty males and twelve females of *Psithyrus variabilis*, along with fifty-one *Bombus*. In the other three nests the number of inquilines varied from one to five. In the same nest containing the *Psithyrus* females, were to be found the living *Bombus* queens. Apparently, as in the case of the *Psithyrus insularis*, the female of *Psithyrus variabilis* does not kill the queen *Bombus*.

Hibernating Hydrophilidæ.—Mr. Fred Wintersteiner, who is studying the habits of this family, reports the capture near Richmond, Va., during the last week of January of adults of *Philhydrus nebulosus*, *P. ochraceus*, *Tropisternus glaber*, *T. lateralis*, *Creniphilus subcupreus*, and *Cymbiodyta fimbriata*.

WANTED.—All kinds of material for Life Histories. Lepidoptera, Coleoptera, Hymenoptera, Diptera, etc., etc. Herman H. Brehme, 74 13th Avenue, Newark, N. J.

WANTED.—Transactions American Entomological Society, Vol. IV; Proc. U. S. Natl. Museum, Vol. X, pp. 335-337; Vol. XI, pp. 481-525; Vol. XII, pp. 455-496. Howard L. Clark, Box 1142. Providence, R. I.

FOR SALE.—Entomological News, Vols. XV to XX, inclusive, unbound, at subscription price, six vols., \$6. Geo. P. Engelhardt, Museum, Brooklyn, N. Y.